

## The Compact

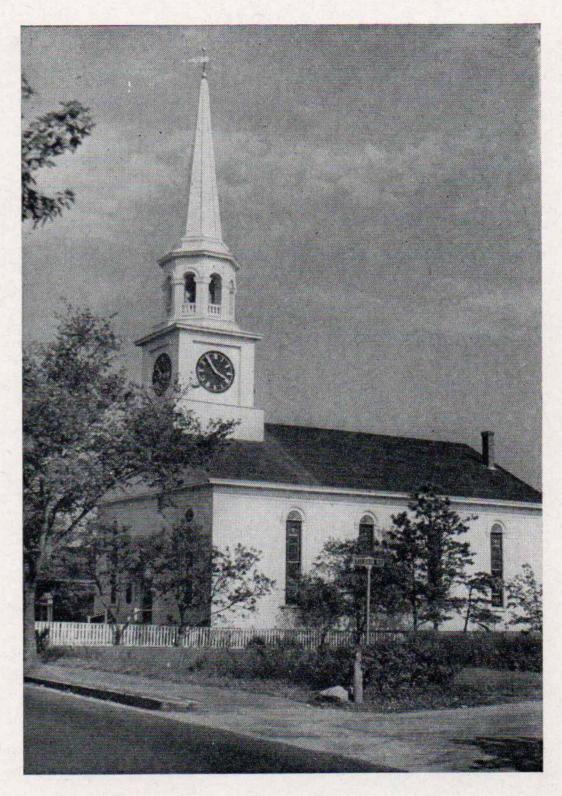
Signed in the Cabin of the "Mayflower," in Provincetown Harbor, Nov. 21st (New Style), 1620

"In the name of God, amen, we whose names are underwritten, the lovall subjects of our dread soveraigne Lord, King James, by the grace of God, of Great Britaine, Franc and Ireland king, defender of the faith, &c., haveing undertaken, for the glorie of God, and advancemente of the Christian faith, and honor of our king and countrie, a vovage to plant the first colonie in the northerne parts of Virginia, doe by these presents solemnly and mutualy in the presence of God, and one of another, covenant and combine ourselves together into a civill body politick, for our better ordering and preservation and furtherence of the ends aforesaid; and by vertue hereof to enacte, constitute and frame such just and equall laws, ordenances, acts, constitutions and offices, from time to time, as shall be thought most meete and convenient for the general good of the colonie, unto which we promise all due submission and obedience. In witness whereof we have hereunto subscribed our names at Cap-Codd the 11 of November, in the year of the raigne of our soveraigne lord, King James of England, Franc and Ireland the eighteenth, and of Scotland the fifty-fourth, ANo Dom 1620."

JOHN CARVER.
WILLIAM BRADFORD.
EDWARD WINSLOW,
WILLIAM BREWSTER.
ISAAC ALLERTON,
MYLES STANDISH,
JOHN ALDEN,
SAMUEL FULLER,
CHRISTOPHER MARTIN
WILLIAM MULLINS,
WILLIAM WHITE,
RICHARD WARREN,
JOHN HOWLAND,
STEPHEN HOPKINS.

EDWARD TILLY
JOHN TILLY,
FRANCIS COOKE,
THOMAS ROGERS,
THOMAS TINKER,
JOHN RIDGDALE,
EDWARD FULLER,
JOHN TURNER,
FRANCIS EATON,
JAMIES CHILTON,
JOHN BILLINGTON
MOSES FLETCHER
JOHN GOODMAN.

DEGORY PRIEST,
THOMAS WILLIAMS,
GILBERT WINSLOW,
EDMOND MARGESON,
PETER BROWN,
RICHARD BRITTERIDGE
GEORGE SOULE,
RICHARD CLARKE,
RICHARD GARDINER,
JOHN ALLERTON,
THOMAS ENGLISH,
EDWARD DOTY,
EDWARD LEISTER



PILGRIM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH AT HARWICH PORT

## The Pilgrims and Cape Cod

When Cape Cod is mentioned, it usually envisions a scene of windswept, lonely sand dunes, long sweeping beaches, temperamental oceans, white sails on sheltered bays, vast marshlands, pine woods, bleak and desolate hills, sandy ponds, tidy villages, and the memory of peaceful, tranquil days far away

from the haste and speed of city life.

But Cape Cod is more than this—it is a section of New England whose roots, deep and solid, reach back far into the past to the times of the landing of the Pilgrims, first at Provincetown and then as a permanent settlement at Plymouth; and even back into the days when the Norsemen in their quest for fish landed on the Cape Cod shores. Even as early as the year 1611 Edward Harlow, an Englishman, raided the Cape shores at many points and carried off a couple of Indians.

Gosnold, the first European whose voyage gives us any real information about the appearance of the Cape, sailed from Falmouth, England, in the spring of 1602 in the ship Concord; having in mind to found a new colony in some agreeable spot, preferably where there was plenty of gold. On May 14 of that year, Gosnold and his crew landed on the Massachusetts coast and eventually, within a few weeks, landed at Cape Cod where he

anchored off the outer beach behind Provincetown and became so excited by the great schools of cod that surrounded his vessel, he

named the land Cape Cod.

The next explorer to visit the Cape was Champlain, a Frenchman, and a good cartographer, who made two expeditions to the Cape, the first, early in the summer of 1605, and again in the fall of 1606, and he is thought on his second expedition to have landed at what is now Barnstable Harbor.

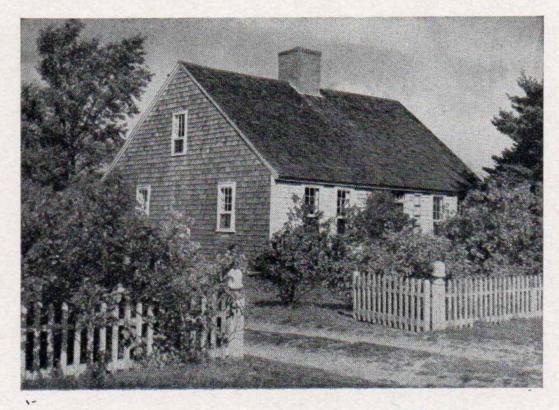
Captain John Smith came in 1614 and his accounts of his discoveries and of the beauties and excellencies of the country for any purpose was an enthusiasm shared by us of the present day. Captain Smith made an amazingly accurate map of the coast of Cape Cod but was honest enough to stop drawing where his knowledge ended. Smith tried to alter the name of Cape Cod to that of Cape James but was never successful in this attempt.

The next arrivals on Cape Cod were the Pilgrims in the *Mayflower*. Their predecessors came for the love of adventure and desire for gold but the Pilgrims came in search of religious freedom. Their stubborn desire to worship God as they chose, sustained them in the grievous and heart-breaking disappointments and deceptions which they suffered.

Leaving Delfthaven on August 3, 1620, they went to Southampton, England, and here they



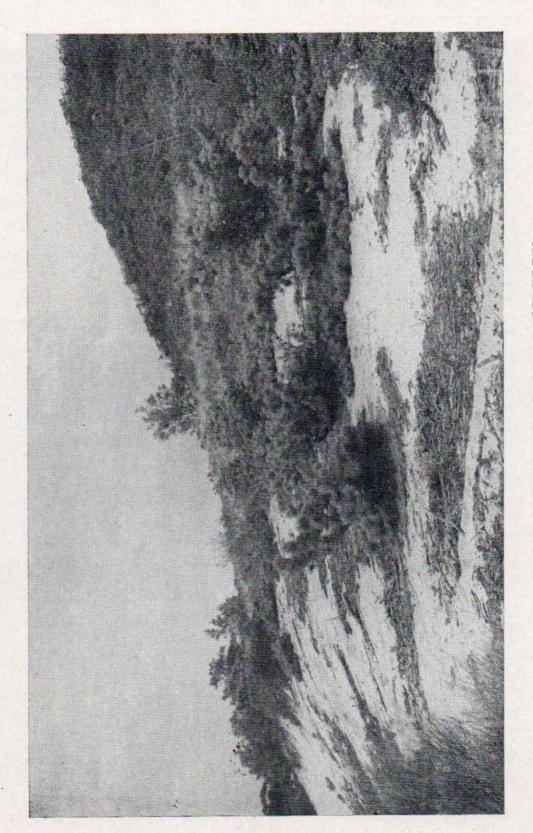
OLD BROOKS ACADEMY AT HARWICH CENTER



KENRICK HOUSE-OLDEST IN ORLEANS

embarked on the ships Mayflower and the Speedwell. Leaky conditions quickly caused the Speedwell to turn back so both ships put in to Plymouth, England. On September 16, 1620, the Mayflower, with a small company of 102 Pilgrims, set forth from Plymouth alone and after 67 trying days at sea they anchored in Cape Cod Harbor in what is known now as Provincetown Harbor, where they dropped anchor on November 11, 1620. Provincetown was not the destination they had in mind but after more than two months in the cramped quarters of the Mayflower and being driven off their course by adverse winds and tides they put into Cape Cod Harbor for shelter.

It was in the cabin of the Mayflower, while it was anchored in Provincetown Harbor, that the first great democratic charter, known as the Compact, was written and signed by the members of the Pilgrim group, the text of which is printed on page one. While the Mayflower lay at anchor in Provincetown Harbor, several exploring expeditions were sent ashore. Many of the Pilgrims were in favor of settling in what is now Truro, but others believed that further exploration should be made; so on December 6, ten Pilgrims and eight sailors, under command of Myles Standish, set out in the shallop in freezing weather to examine the whole Bay shore, which eventually



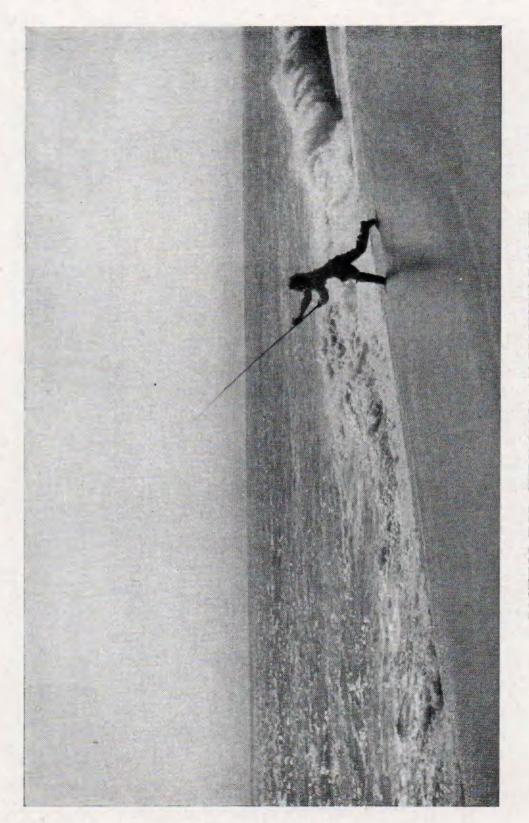
SAND DUNES AND HOG CRANBERRY

brought them to Plymouth which it was decided would be the limits of their explorations. Before reaching Plymouth they grounded on the East end flats and waded ashore where they spent the night. The next morning, amid great excitement and confusion, they exchanged shots with a number of Indians. This adventure they termed "First Encounter," and as such it is known in history. A bronze tablet on the Eastham bay shore

marks this spot.

At the time the Pilgrims landed on Cape Cod the Cape was inhabited by large numbers of Indian tribes—all of whom were independent, peace-loving, and non-progressive. All the Cape Indians belonged nominally to the Wampanoags but each tribe had its own identity. At Falmouth were the Succonessitts. Those living near Sandwich called themselves Manomets; those at Barnstable and Yarmouth were Mattakees and Cummaquids; the Monomoyicks occupied what is now Chatham; the Nausets controlled Eastham; and the northernmost group who lived in the neighborhood of Truro were called Pamets.

The Pilgrims, now firmly established in Plymouth, found the Cape both a blessing and a nuisance. It was a blessing as a granary, but it was a nuisance because it lay across the water route to New York and trade with the Dutch—a situation which was corrected in



CASTING FOR SURF BASS AT NAUSET BEACH

recent years by the building of the Cape Cod Canal.

Many members of the Plymouth Colony at Plymouth began to realize that the Cape was a good place to live in and in 1630 when Bradford received his patent from England, which annexed the whole Cape to the Plymouth territory, there began a natural gravitation of the Pilgrims from Plymouth toward Cape Cod.

Sandwich was the first site that was selected. It had vast acres of marshes for salt hay, there was water power for a mill, there was a stream with herring, and wood in prodigious quantities; and so in 1637 Everett Freeman of Lynn, together with ten others, established the Town of Sandwich and in 1639 the settlement was regularly incorporated and named Sandwich after the old town in Kent.

Yarmouth was the next town to be established, the first attempt being a failure. The Reverend Stephen Bachiler, a fiery malcontent, set out in the winter of 1637 with a few of his unregenerate flock; but the enterprise was foredoomed to failure and the 75-year-old Rev. Bachiler and his followers would have starved to death had it not been for the friendliness of the Indians. The first real Sandwich settlers, Anthony Thatcher, John Crow, Thomas Howes and Stephen Hopkins,



NET MENDERS AT PROVINCETOWN



THERE IS NO "SPARE TIME" FOR FISHERMEN

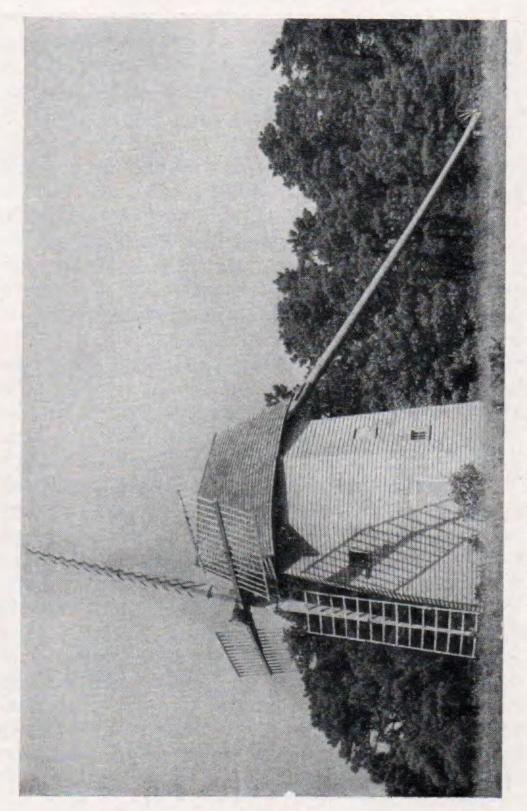
one of the original *Mayflower* band, arrived in Sandwich in the late winter of 1639 and the town was incorporated almost as soon as they had arrived.

Barnstable was settled in December, 1639, by the Rev. Joseph Hull and Thomas Dimock but its guiding spirit was the Rev. John Lothrop, who arrived on October 11, 1639,

and who little by little took charge.

Eastham was the last of the original four Cape Towns to be founded; the first settlers being a solidly united group of church members from Plymouth and thus Eastham was endowed at birth with a richer strain of Pilgrim blood than Sandwich, Yarmouth, or Barnstable.

By 1640 Plymouth began to suffer from the loss of citizens; business in the old town was not what it had been; men began to grumble and there was an increasing demand for more acreage. The Pilgrims then decided to move in a body, to transplant the entire population and to leave Plymouth; and so looked about for a place to go. Their eyes turned toward Nausett whose soil was reputed to be the best in the Colony; but following a survey the Pilgrims were convinced there would not be enough room for all the members of the Pilgrim Colony, so only the younger members went to Eastham and in April, 1644, Plymouth saw with a sad



THE GIANT WITH FOUR ARMS AT BREWSTER Open to the Public

heart the more vigorous half of her population depart for Nausett. In 1651 the name of Nausett was changed to Eastham and the town was incorporated in that year.

On the firm and solid base of Sandwich, Yarmouth, Barnstable and Nausett rested the

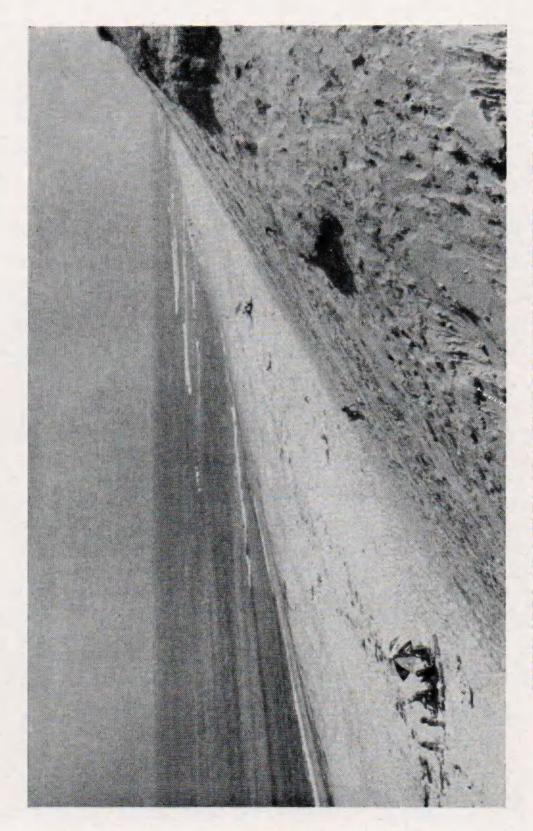
early civilization of the Cape.

The early settlers were not tolerant of newcomers who were scanned with a critical eye before being permitted to settle on the Cape. At least two substantial citizens were appointed in each town whose duty it was to eject undesirables, and woe be to those who attempted to settle on the Cape before they had consulted the appointed officials; the newcomers would be promptly "warned out of the town" regardless of their desirability.

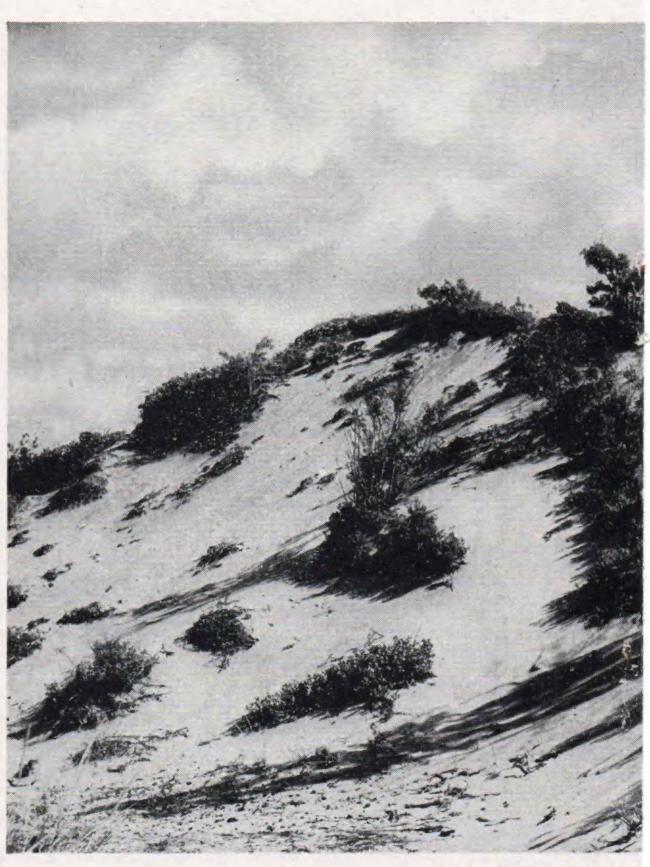
A hostile attitude towards strangers took deep root in the Cape soil—in fact, it has never entirely disappeared. Even as late as 1810 the town clerk and the selectmen of Brewster protested against the appointment of one person as postmaster, on the grounds that he was "a foreigner and in the opinion

of the town, an alien."

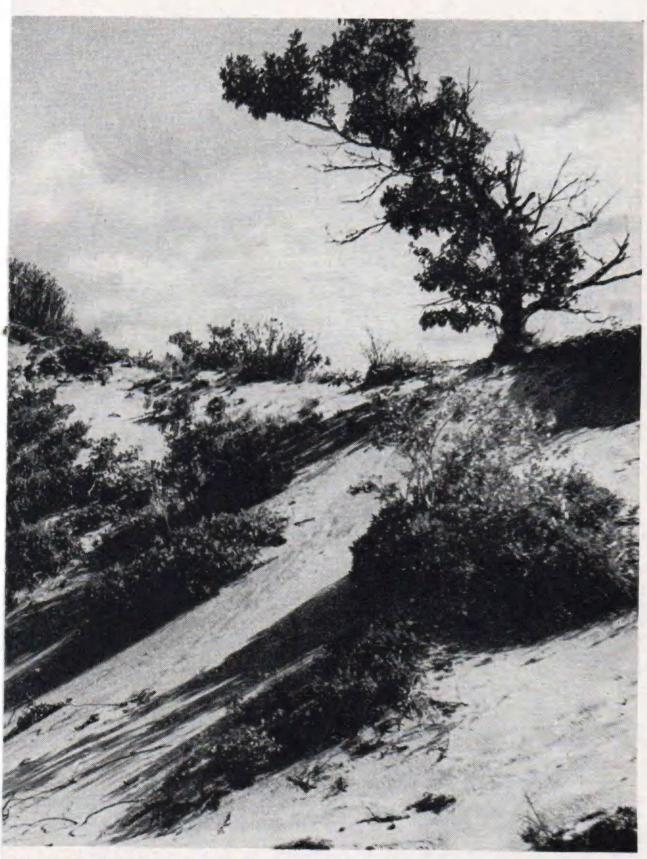
The new settlements on the Cape flourished, but Plymouth, the stern autocrat, where the highest authority in the Colony, the Governor, resided, kept a firm and tight tether on the Cape settlements.



HUNDREDS OF MILES OF SANDY BEACHES OUTLINE CAPE COD



WINDSWEPT SAND DU



NES AT PROVINCETOWN

In the Plymouth Colony the highest authority was the Governor who was elected annually by the "Freemen" who were members of the Orthodox Church and who were obliged to be worth at least 20 pounds in property. With the Governor was elected one assistant, but by 1633 this number had been increased to seven and it remained at this figure until the Plymouth Colony merged with the Massachusetts Bay Colony in 1692. The Governor and his assistants comprised the general court or legislature which made the laws of the Colony. When the Cape was settled as part of the Colony, the court was enlarged by the addition of two deputies from each new town; but Plymouth, jealous of her authority, kept matters under control, first by giving herself four deputies besides the Governor and his assistants, and secondly by reserving the right to dismiss the Cape deputies if she saw fit and demanding new ones in their place. So it can be seen that the influence of Plymouth on the Cape was pronounced for many years—in fact, it existed until the election of Thomas Prence of Eastham as Governor of the Colony in 1657. Prence had moved to Eastham from Plymouth where he had already served two terms as Governor. He wished to remain in Eastham and held so firmly for this location that the court consented and the new Governor began his third term with the seat of government on

the Cape and he was re-elected every year for the next seventeen years. It was during these years that the influence of Plymouth over the

Cape began to decline.

Provincetown was the first place on the Cape to be visited by white men but one of the last to be dignified with the title of a town. Visited by fishermen and picturesque villains along the coast of Brittany and the Bay of Biscay, by pirates and smugglers, Provincetown was the "Black Sheep" of the Colony. Accounts of riotous doings finally reached the shocked ears of the General Court and resulted with an act passed in 1718 which put the unruly settlement under the jurisdiction of Truro which accepted this responsibility with restrained enthusiasm. Finally in 1727 Provincetown petitioned to be incorporated and Truro was released from the onerous burden to which it had been so faithful for twelve years.

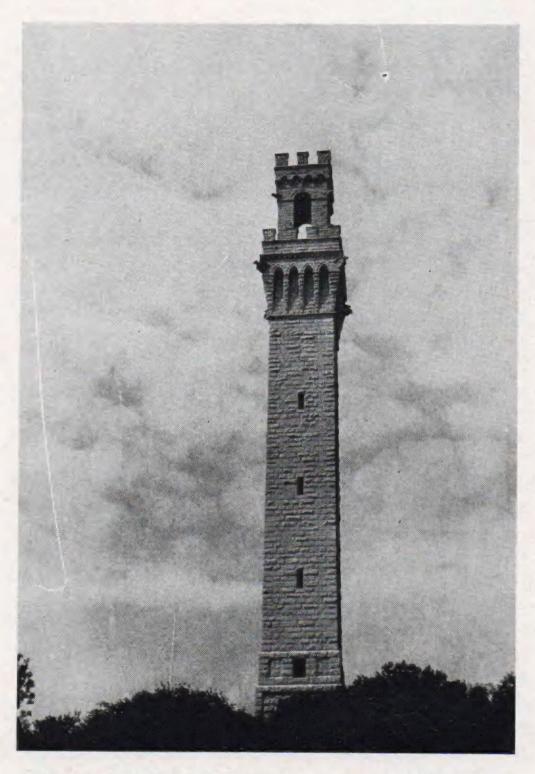
Gradually the influence and prosperity of Eastham declined as various settlers of the Colony broke off into separate units. Billingsgate which had always been under the jurisdiction of Eastham, set out for itself in 1763 and became a town, Wellfleet; then in 1797 Eastham suffered another shock when the great district of Orleans that lay along her western border severed herself from the mother town. Originally Eastham had control, nominally at least, of the territory below

Yarmouth; one by one Chatham, Harwich, Truro, Wellfleet, Orleans were lost to her and with it her prestige was gone; and like Plymouth, from then on she must rest content with her small tax list, a modest acreage and a

proud past.

In 1685 Plymouth Colony, for convenience in administration, was divided into three counties—Plymouth, Bristol and Barnstable. This occurred under the administration of Governor Thomas Hinckley. In the last year of Hinckley's realm, Plymouth Colony merged with its younger neighbor—the Massachusetts Bay Colony—although the citizens of the old Colony vigorously protested this amalgamation.

Those who were not blinded by sentiment could see that the days of a Plymouth Government were numbered. Seventy years had passed since the Pilgrim settlement at Plymouth and the early settlements at Cape Cod. The first settlers now slumbered in the church graveyard. The Cape had become a separate county and for the next 250 years would record a colorful and romantic history of its own with its clipper ships and sea captains, its industries and rugged character. But its sturdy beauty, its gentle climate and its tranquil reaches of lonely land and beaches remain but little touched by the passing decades.



THE PILGRIM MONUMENT AT PROVINCETOWN
Open to the Public

## Old Indian Meeting House at Mashpee

Near the old Barnstable Road at Mashpee is the old Indian meeting house which is supported in part by an annual sum paid to the Indians of Mashpee by Harvard University.

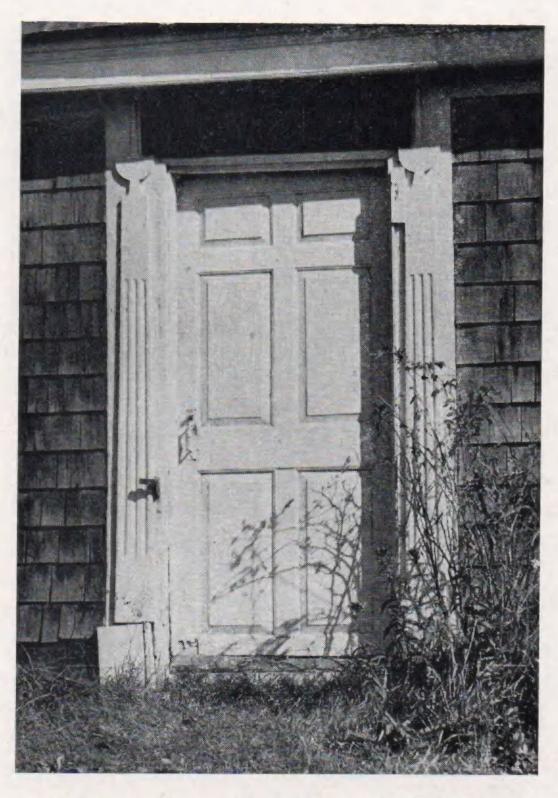
In 1711 "a pious man, named Daniel Williams, died in England and in his will made the following provision: 'I give the remainder of my estate to be paid yearly to the College of Cambridge or to such as are employed to manage the blessed work of converting the poor Indians there, to promote which I design this part of my gift.'"

The income from this fund is now about \$700 a year but living expenses are such that the Mashpees have to supplement this sum with enough to bring the total to about \$1500 for

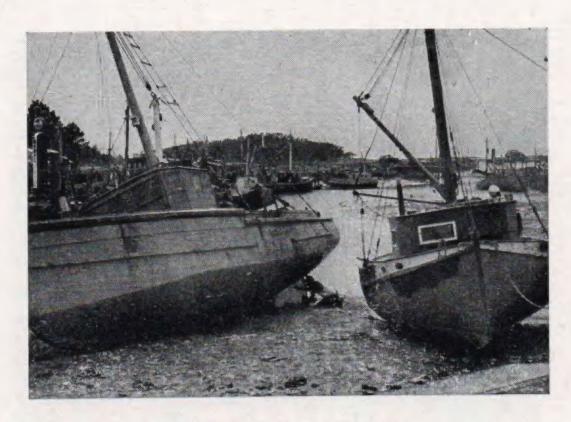
the support of a preacher.

The records show that the Indian chapel was built in 1684. A glance at the wide floor-boards of soft pine, the narrow-seated box pews and the high risers to the stairs leading to the gallery, indicates the age of the building.

The Indian Chapel was built at Bryant's Neck, in the east part of the town, on the road from Cotuit to Sandwich. A man named Coleman built it for the Mashpees, and in exchange



DOORWAY OF OLD ATWOOD HOUSE (1752), CHATHAM Open to the Public, Wednesdays, Fridays, 2:00-5:00 p.m.

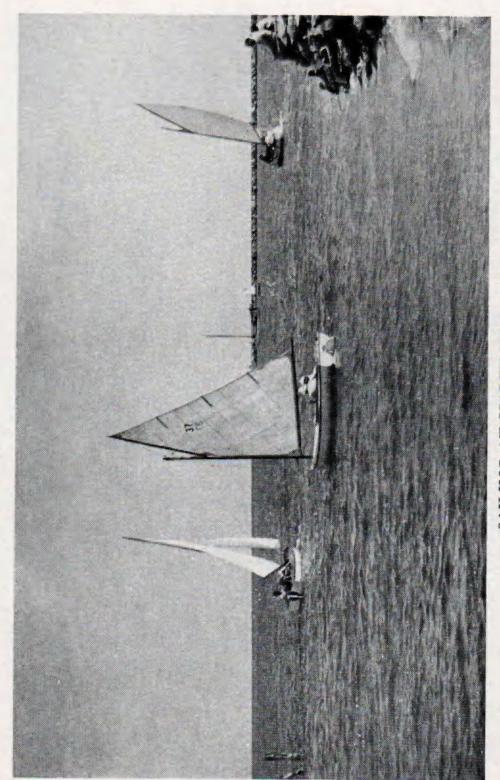


ROCK HARBOR, ORLEANS

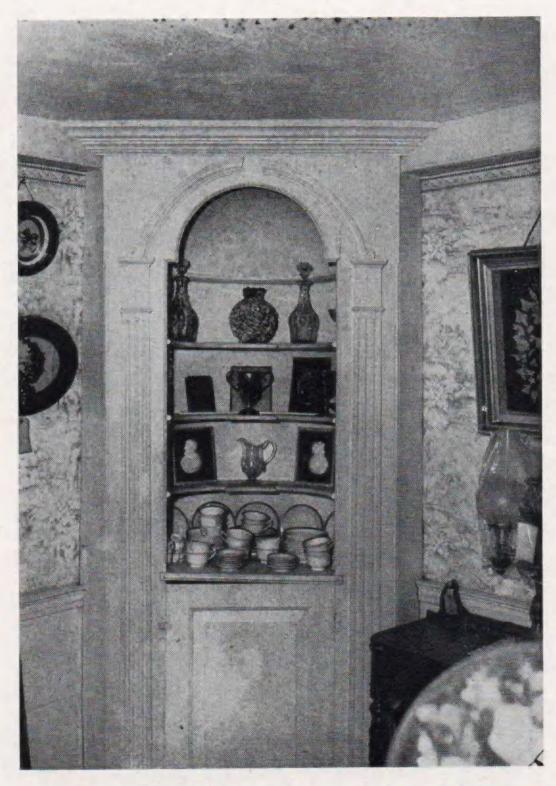
they gave him all the land extending for half a mile from the Big Pond.

In 1854 the chapel was moved from Bryant's Neck and taken three miles to where it now stands, in the midst of an Indian graveyard. Instead of starting a graveyard around the church, as in most cases, the church was moved to the graveyard, which is older than the church.

The reason for removal was economic. In former days, the Indians lived mostly near the ponds. Fishing and hunting were their vocations, but more recently they have taken to farming and have made new homes away from



SAILING AT HARWICH PORT



CORNER CUPBOARD IN ATWOOD HOUSE, CHATHAM

the ponds. They still have their fishing privileges, however, which they hold under a

permanent grant.

Half of an old millstone is before each of the entrance doors to the Indian Meeting House, the same millstones which have stood before the Chapel for years. Opposite the pulpit on the front of the gallery is a good-sized clock. A wood-burning stove of heroic proportions is in the center with a pipe stretching to a flue behind the pulpit platform.

The Christian Indians of Mashpee are Bap-

tists and have been so for many years.

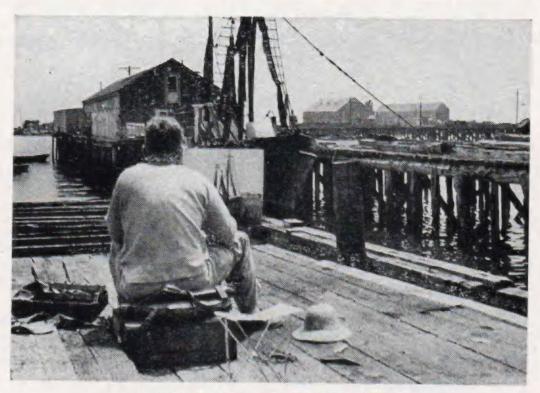
The history of Mashpee seems to have centered around the chapel life for its leaders were identified not only with civic affairs but with the religious life of the community. A settlement of the boundary line between the Indian settlement and the Town of Bourne was effected in 1658 by Richard Bourne who soon afterwards secured a patent for the Indians. Guardians were first appointed for the Indians by the Government in 1693 but in 1760 a representative of the Indians went to England and in person presented to the King a complaint against the Colonial Government and permission was given the Mashpees to choose their own officers. Dissatisfaction continued, however, and in May, 1833, a council in Mashpee sent resolutions to the legislature. The leaders were imprisoned, but in March, 1834,

Mashpee was incorporated as a district and the Indians began to manage their own affairs assisted by a State Commissioner. They chose their own selectmen and school committee, land was petitioned among proprietors and deeds were recorded. In 1767 there were twenty-one shingled houses in Mashpee — in 1800 there were eighty houses, and wigwams

had practically disappeared.

Richard Bourne set out to evangelize the Indians in 1661—they were then called South Sea Indians as well as Mashpees; and in 1670 was ordained pastor, "assisted by Mr. Elliott and Mr. Coleman who came from Plymouth." The Mashpee Indians of the present day cling to the tribal form though it is more traditional than official; nevertheless, matters come up which are settled in council apart from Town Meeting. The chief of the Indians becomes head of the Mashpees by inheritance.

It was a custom of the Indian to go ahead of his wife and children. One Indian, on being asked why he did this, replied by asking: "Why do you always walk beside your wife?" The white man explained: "It is a survival of an old custom that a man had to have his right hand free to protect her against attack." The Indian nodded and explained his custom also was one of protection. He walked ahead to hold back the underbrush and clear the way for the women and also to be on guard against attack.



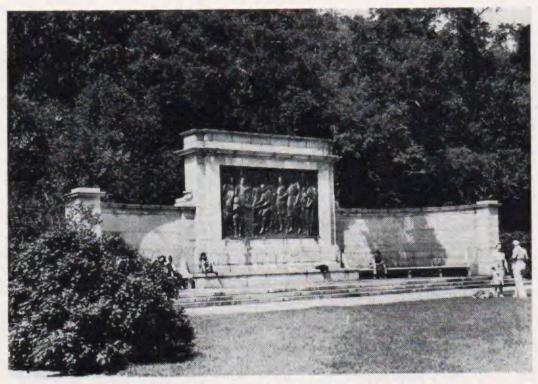
WHARF AT PROVINCETOWN



CAPE COD AUCTION



BROOKS LIBRARY, HARWICH CENTER showing parts of famous Rogers statuary collection. Open to the Public.



PILGRIM MEMORIAL, PROVINCETOWN

## **Odd Facts**

The first recorded Town Meeting in Sandwich was 1651 at which time corn and beans were used in voting. Corns were for the "ayes" and beans for the "neys."

In 1695 the Town of Sandwich passed an order that every unmarried man in the Township yearly should kill six blackbirds, or three crows while he remained single, and then should not marry until he obeyed and fulfilled that order to the letter. In Sandwich men over seventy years of age were excused from killing any blackbirds.

The south side of Barnstable at one time was virtually a wilderness—all the forests were of virgin pine and the whole region was known as the South Sea.

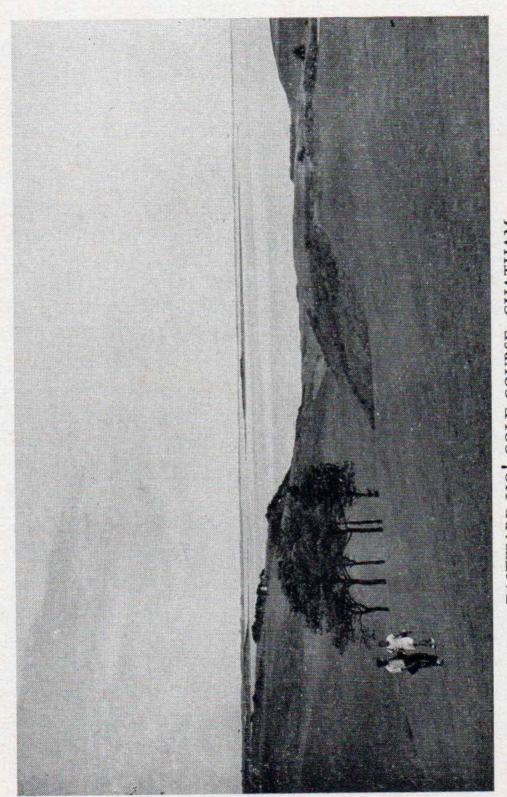
A record school of 2,000 blackfish was taken at Provincetown in 1884.

Harwich, Chatham and Barnstable were at one time the chief fishing ports of the Cape.

The Cape Cod Canal was taken over by the Federal Government during the winter of 1927-28.

Cape Cod is a geological freak, created by the Great Glacier.

The "Cape" is all that land south of the Cape Cod Canal.



EASTWARD HO! GOLF COURSE, CHATHAM

